

Raritan Valley Arts Association

established 1939

September 2005 NEWSLETTER

President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton

Still Summer, thank you, Greetings!

Although it is racing along, it is still summer, your editor's favorite time of year! But RVAA has a special way of greeting autumn—yes, our first meeting will be **September 26th, 7:30 pm at the Somerset County Library**. You'll really enjoy our first meeting for we've something brand new for RVAA—a noted **illustrator, Bryan Langdo**, will be **demonstrating (in watercolor)** and speaking about the **children's book illustration field**. Bryan is the author-illustrator of THE DOG WHO LIVED THE GOOD LIFE, and the illustrator of such children's books as CINDERS, MUMMY MATH, and more. He'll bring samples of his book "dummies" and sketches, and of his books, and perhaps the one he is presently working on. (on a personal note both your editor and President Linda Arnold have been studying with Bryan since January as they work on children's books. You'd be surprised how much there is to children's book illustration, and how complex actual illustration is. Come with questions). Mary Ann Vaccaro is our gracious hostess/refreshment provider and we thank her.

DUES ARE DUE!! Membership Chairman Doug Axmann reminds us that dues are due in September. Individual membership is \$26.; Family is \$33; Student (high school and under) is \$15. You can send a check made out to RVAA to Doug at 16 Schoolhouse Lane, Somerville, NJ, 08876. RVAA usually has three shows a year for members only, including our Holiday Extravaganza at the Somerset County Library, which runs a month. We have demonstrators at all our meetings (and refreshments), a monthly newsletter, an annual trip or two to the Big Apple, and last, but not least, lots of camaraderie.

October 24th RVAA will host Ken Schwartz, a noted graphic artist. So please put that on your calendar now, as well as our meeting November 28th.

New opportunities for RVAA members! National Starch is looking for rotating art shows in their main Lobby (FINDERNE Avenue, Manville). You may call Christopher Hirst at 908/685-5000. NECA Corporation is looking for a rotating art exhibit of approximately 30 works of art for their corporate lobby. You may call Eileen Liebezeit at 973/884-8112 to be a part of these exhibits. If you don't have a lot of works to show, consider having a two- or three-person show.

Since it is (almost) fall, there are a plethora of shows to enter—October 1st from 9-noon is the delivery for the NJWCS 63rd Annual Open Juried Exhibition at the Ridgewood Art Institute. You may phone Marge Chavooshian at 609/695-8695 for a prospectus. For a prospectus for the Tewksbury Historical Society's 16th annual juried show in Oldwick, October 7-13, please phone either Kathy Halsy 908/876-9343 or Shaun C. Van Doren 908/439-3053. Although the deadline for the Church on the Mountain Show in Bernardsville's juried slide portion was due September 9th, you might try phoning the church about the non-juried small price sale. And although September 10th was receiving for the 36th Annual Juried Exhibition of the Garden State Watercolor Society, that excellent show will be up at the 1860 House, Montgomery Center for the Arts, in Skillman, NJ, September 16th through October 23rd.

Finally, **Hurricane Katrina** is on everyone's minds. RVAA hopes that for all of you who have friends and relatives in that area, that your loved ones are safe and finding a haven. Our prayers and hopes for a peaceful and blessed future for all go out. Your editor is sure that many of you have donated money to various causes as well, including all the homeless or otherwise damaged wild animals.

Members in the News

LINDA ARNOLD has been commissioned to do a painting for the Ridge High School (in Basking Ridge) entitled "Touchdown Club", and was also commissioned to do a "bird's eye" painting of the Ridge Oak Senior Village, for them.

GAY BILLICH won an Award of Excellence in Somerset Art Association's Members Show, an Award of Excellence in the the NJWCS's Associate Juried Show in Bernardsville, the Juror's Award of Excellence from the Perkins Center for the Arts in Moorestown, and her work was included in the National Collage Society at Lincoln Center and National Association of Women Artists 116th Annual Exhibition at 80th Fifth Avenue, NYC.

ELSA HERRMANN was the featured artist in Louisa Melrose Gallery (Frenchtown, NJ) for July. Elsa also received the Honorable Mention Watercolor in the Ocean County Senior Citizen Show.

JOAN MCKINNEY, DEBBIE TINTLE, and DIANA PATTON are included in the NJWCS Elected Members' Show October 5-30th at the Port of Call Gallery, 40 Main Street, Warwick, New York. (www.protofcall.net or 845/986-9500 for information and directions to the gallery)

DIANA PATTON had a one-woman show of 37 paintings in the Madison Gallery of Morristown Memorial Gallery August 7th-September 17th. She was awarded Second Place in "Works on Paper" in the juried show at the gallery of the Somerset Cultural and Heritage Commission in June.

SONJA WEIR is included in the Strathmore WHO'S WHO 2005-2006. She was the judge for the Essex Watercolor Society's Members' Exhibition "A Stroke of Brush" at Seton Hall in June. Sonja received a citation from the Board of Freeholders for the Senior Citizens' Show at the Somerset Cultural and Heritage Gallery, July and August. All eight of her students, from ages 3-15 won awards, 1sts, 2nds, 3rds, and H.M.s, at the 11th Annual Children's Juried Art Exhibition at the Watchung Art Center in June. This was the seventh year in a row that all the children Sonja teaches won awards in that show.

AUDREY WRESZIN won an Award of Excellence at the Westfield Art Association's Members Show, a Merit Award at the Livingston Arts Association Members' Exhibition, and an Honorable Mention at the Millburn/ Short Hills Bernardsville Library Show. Audrey also did a collage demonstration for the Westfield Art Association, working from the theme "Seeing Red".

So—the **SEASON** is upon us. We know you are entering shows, being accepted into juried shows, winning awards, demonstrating, etc. **We want to let your friends at RVAA know. Drop me a note, please.**

